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During a 9-month period of 1949, government departments and local soviets of Stalingrad built 48,000 square meters of housing. Individual builders constructed about 20,000 square meters of living area. Almost 593 million rubles were to be spent in 1949 for construction and reconstruction work in Stalingrad, out of which amount over 113 million rubles were intended for housing construction. Streetcar lines in the city have been reconstructed to reach almost 60 kilometers, which is the prewar figure. (5)

A large volume of housing construction is being undertaken in the settlement of Boksitogorsk, Leningrad Oblast. Ten eight-apartment houses with a total living area of 3,480 square meters were recently built. The hotel building is being restored. A large four-story building which will house an FZO school and workshops is under construction and two 12-apartment buildings are going up next to it. Many prefabricated houses are being assembled in the outskirts. (6)

A new settlement is being built near the peat machine-building plant in Ivanovo. The new apartment houses are equipped with central heating, plumbing, and sewer systems. The first families of plant workers have moved into the new buildings. (7)

There are 43 buildings under construction in Ul'yanovsk. Two new secondary schools, a kindergarten, and a children's nursery have been built in 1949. A streetcar line connecting the town with the railroad station is being completed. A new asphalt plant will soon be put into operation.

In 1949, Astrakhan' has asphalted 45,000 square meters of streets and 5,000 square meters of sidewalks. An outdoor theater seating 600 persons is now under construction. (8)

Residents of the rayon center Aniva, Sakhalin Oblast, recently built a new community center on the bank of the Aniva River. The new building contains an auditorium for 500 people, rooms for study groups, billiard, chess, etc., as well as the rayon library and a reading room.

A new community center has also been built in Kuril'skiy Rayon. The existing community center in Poronaysk is being enlarged. Cultural centers in Chekhov, Novo-Aleksandrovsk, and in Vostochno-Sakhalinskiy and Kirovskiy rayons are being reconstructed. (9)

Karelo-Finnish SSR

The rayon center Spasskaya Guba was equipped with electricity on 3 November. A large amount of construction is in progress, including a community center with a hall seating 400 persons, and a new 7-year school. (10)

The Administration of Rural and Kolkhoz Construction, Council of Ministers Karelo-Finnish SSR, has begun the planning of new kolkhoz villages in Sortaval'skiy, Kurkiyokskiy and Pitkyarantskiy rayons. In 1950, construction of nine villages will begin in Sortaval'skiy Rayon, the same number in Kurkiyokskiy Rayon, and two villages in Pitkyarantskiy Rayon.

The town of Olonets was seriously damaged during the war. During the past few years, construction has made great progress. Eighty new houses have been built in Olonets, including 11 by the Communal Department of the City Soviet and 19 by the motor repair plant and other government departments. More than 50 houses were built by individual builders with the help of government loans.

Olonets now has ten industrial enterprises, two electric power plants, a community center, a movie theater, two libraries, three schools and a children's home, a hospital, a polyclinic, a medical center for women and children, a pharmacy, a public radio reception and distribution system, and other cultural institutions. The population of the town is now larger than in prewar years. (11)

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Latvian SSR

The Council of Ministers Latvian SSR has made a decision regarding construction of kolkhoz settlements. In six uyezds of the republic, which had suffered most during the war, 100 kolkhoz settlements will be built in the next 3 years. Two types of houses have been approved by the Architectural Council: three-room houses with porch and two-room houses. A total of 3,300 houses will be built in the settlements. Excavation work is now in progress. The first seven kolkhoz settlements will be built in Liyepaya Uyezd. (12)

Belorussian SSR

The general reconstruction and development plan for Grodno provides for the construction of new multistoried apartment houses, administrative buildings, squares and streets. The ancient, historical plan of the city will remain intact. According to the new plan, the city center will be moved to the Sovetskaya Ploshchad' area. On one side the square, facing the Neman River, will remain open. A number of multistoried administrative buildings, including the Hall of Soviets, will be built around the square. The main streets, Grodno, Sovetskaya, and Karla Marksa, are to be widened up to 28-30 meters. New streets will be built to establish a direct connection between the center and the suburbs. (13)

Reconstruction of Minsk is progressing. The greater part of the city is being completely rebuilt, including the main thoroughfare, Sovetskaya ulitsa. The roadway of this street is to be 24 meters wide, as compared with the former 18 meters, and the total width of the street including sidewalks is to be 48 meters. There will be many new buildings on Sovetskaya ulitsa: a large Central General Store building with a capacity of 47,000 cubic meters, a State Bank building, a building for scientific workers, two apartment houses of 124 apartments each, a community center for trade unions, and others.

More than a million rubles are spent daily for the reconstruction of Minsk. Industrial methods are being used more extensively and labor productivity has greatly increased. Glavminskstroy, one of the main organizations doing reconstruction work in Minsk, has determined that the average daily output per worker in 1949 was 180 percent of the output in 1944. (14)

The Baranovichi, Brest and Mozyr' construction trusts, as well as number of plants under "Stroydetal'" (Construction Parts Trust), Ministry of Housing and Civilian Construction Belorussian SSR, fulfilled their 1949 year plans ahead of schedule.

Several large apartment houses and a school for 800 children were built in Vitebsk during 1949. A new school and a hospital were built in Gomel'. A number of construction projects are near completion, including several large administrative buildings in Vitebsk, Polotsk and Baranovichi, a hotel in Molodechno, and dwellings in Vitebsk, Gomel', Polotsk and Molodechno. (15)

During the past 4 years, 32 industrial enterprises of union, republic, and local industry were reconstructed in Vitebsk, and 245,000 square meters of housing were newly built. Reconstruction of the water main is also being completed. The Vitebsk streetcar system, the oldest in the USSR, has been restored. The number of schools and cultural institutions is growing. There are now four higher educational institutions: a medical, a veterinary, a pedagogical, and a teachers' institution, as well as technical schools, and a number of others. Extensive construction is planned for 1950. (16)

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Moldavian SSR

During 10 months of 1949, the Ministry of Housing and Civilian Construction Moldavian SSR built 9,300 square meters of housing, which included 44 buildings. Kishinev obtained a new comfortable hotel for 160 guests, several two-story houses, 11 prefabricated houses for the university settlement, and a building for the communal technical school.

A school and five prefabricated dwellings were built in Tiraspol', a community center in Bel'tsy, and a hotel and five dwellings in Bendery. (17)

Ukrainian SSR

Construction of new houses, schools, and stores in Kharkov is progressing. Twenty multistoried apartment houses are being built for workers, engineers, technicians and employees of the tractor plant. Workers and employees of the Machine-Tool Building Plant imeni Molotov will soon receive two large apartment houses and ten cottages. Six houses are under construction for workers of the electric-traction equipment-plant. An FZO school is being built on the grounds of this plant.

One hundred individual homes are under construction for workers of the Turbogenerator Plant imeni Kirov. This settlement will include a school, a public nursery, a kindergarten, and stores. Each individual builder has been assigned 600 square meters of land. (18)

New buildings are being completed each month in the town of Stalino. A new 70-apartment house was recently built for workers of the "Donbassvodtrest." Four similar houses were built during 1949 in the central section of ulitsa imeni Artema. Since the beginning of 1949, the living area of the town has increased by more than 100,000 square meters. In addition to housing, industrial enterprises and cultural institutions are being built, including a margarine plant and a club for workers of the "Stalinugol" Repair Base. Reconstruction of the largest building of the Hospital imeni Voroshilov has been completed. (19)

Gorlovka and Yenakiyev are two large industrial centers of the Donbass. Construction in these two towns is steadily increasing. During 1949, about 100,000 square meters of housing were built, including many multistoried stone buildings. Wide highways and streetcar lines have also been constructed. (20)

Azerbaijani SSR

Construction occupies a prominent position in the postwar Five-Year Plan of the Azerbaijan SSR. The volume of construction work during the present Five-Year Plan considerably exceeds that of the first and second Five-Year Plans taken together. Capital investments in the construction of petroleum-industry enterprises have grown extensively, and capital construction in other branches of heavy and light industry, electric power plants, farm buildings and housing has also expanded.

A conference of leading construction workers was held on 11 November by the Azerbaijan Council of Trade Unions, together with Baku construction organizations, for the purpose of exchanging information and planning improvements in production. Participants in the conference were to discuss problems of further mechanization and familiarize themselves with advanced production methods.

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Despite the fact that a number of construction projects have mechanized their production processes, the general level of mechanization is still low. Most of the projects do not fulfill their mechanization plans and the existing construction machines and mechanical devices are not utilized to their full capacity. Transport machinery in plastering work is almost idle, although plastering operations present the greatest bottlenecks in construction.

The technical engineering personnel and trade union workers of construction organizations are paying little attention to the establishment of mean progressive norms in construction work and to the proper utilization of construction machinery and consumption of electric power, fuel, and raw materials. However, mean progressive norms are the most important factor in raising labor productivity and making the achievements of leading construction workers known in wide circles.

One of the labor-consuming processes in construction is masonry work in connection with the building of walls. Especially in housing construction the cost of masonry work constitutes up to 30 percent of the entire cost of a building. However, up to the present time masonry is done by the same methods that were used many years ago.

Despite the achievements of individual workers, the majority of Azerbaydzhan construction organizations are continuing to operate unsatisfactorily and are not meeting their production plans. One of the reasons for the lag in construction is the formalistic and bureaucratic attitude shown toward any initiative on the part of the workers. Too much time is spent on speeches and resolutions, instead of putting valuable ideas into practice. (21)

There are over 200 individual builders in Kirovabad. The Azerbaydzhan Republic Communal Bank has granted long-term credits in the total amount of 1,200,000 rubles to 125 workers and employees for housing construction. Thirty builders have already moved into their new homes. The houses are built according to standard plans approved by the Kirovabad Soviet of Workers' Deputies. (22)

Georgian SSR

Capital construction in Georgia is expanding. Increasing numbers of workers are required for construction projects. Many of these projects are not meeting their plans. For instance, the Gori Cotton Combine, the Verkhne-Samgori Irrigation System, and others, are behind schedule. All of them have personnel difficulties and a constant turnover of workers; part of the workers do not meet their quotas and technical training is not organized. There is little consideration for the welfare and cultural needs of the workers. (23)

Kazakh S R

During 1949, 75,000 square meters of housing were built in the Karaganda basin, that is, almost one and a half times more than in 1948. A new workers' settlement was built in Saran' by the "Karagandazhilstroy" Construction Administration of Saran'. Over 200 families of coal miners moved into this settlement. Each family received a two- or three-room apartment.

In the suburban workers' settlement of Novyy Maykuduk, a two-story apartment house with running water and plumbing system has just been completed. This house will be occupied by 120 young construction workers. (24)

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Altay construction workers have built a large number of houses for miners and metallurgical workers. During a short period, they completed 6,000 square meters of housing. Over 400 workers' families of Ust'-Kamenogorsk, Leninogorsk, Glubokoye, and other industrial centers of the Altay recently moved into new apartments. In the near future, 255 more families of miners and metallurgical workers are to move into new homes. Construction of 14 new dwellings in near completion.

The miners' settlement of the Vostochno-Kounradskiy Mine, Karaganda Oblast, is growing continuously. Construction workers of the "Pribalkhashstroy" Trust recently completed 20 individual standard houses. During 1949 and 1950, 150 standard houses are to be built in this locaticn.

More than 14 million rubles have been spent during 1949 for the construction of housing and cultural institutions in Petropavlovsk. During the year, 2,567 square meters of living area have been built. New city blocks and streets have appeared in the last few years. Water pipes and sewage pipes are being laid. A new pumping station is being built on the outskirts of the town, near the Ishim River. (25)

During 1948, kolkhoz farmers of Kirovskiy Rayon, Yuzhno-Kazakhstan Oblast, built four new settlements in Golodnaya Step'. Cotton workers migrating to this region settled down in 700 standard houses. The settlements are now equipped with telephones and radio, and the streets are lined with trees. Each house has its own oil hard and vineyard. (26)

Construction of the new Government House in Alma-Ata has begun. It will consist of four large five-story units, including buildings of the Supreme Soviet Kazakh SSR, the Council of Ministers, the Central Committee of KP(b) Kazakhstan, and a building with a large assembly hall for sessions of the Supreme Soviet. All four units are to be faced with marble and decorated with Kazakh national ornaments. Construction work is completely mechanized. (27)

Kirgiz SSR

Construction work in the Kirgiz SSR is seriously lagging. Only a few ministries and departments have been able to cope with the 9-month capital construction plan, most of them having failed completely. The Ministry of Education, for instance, completed only 31.9 percent of the 1949 plan in a 9-month period, the Ministry of Health 33.8 percent, the Ministry of Forestry 32.8 percent, and the Ministry of State Farms 34.9 percent.

The work at a number of important construction projects is progressing very unsatisfactorily. Construction of rural schools and hospitals is especially slow. The government grants considerable funds each year for this purpose, but the funds are not properly used. In 1948, only 50 percent of the plan for construction of rural schools and only 60 percent of the plan for construction of rural hospitals was completed. The situation has not improved in 1949.

The lag in construction work can no longer be blamed on the lack of building materials, means of transportation, or similar reasons. There is no shortage in local construction materials. Enterprises of the Main Administration of Construction Materials Industry, of local industry, and of industrial cooperatives, produce an ample supply of bricks, lime and roofing tiles, and there is sufficient timber. The Kirgiz SSR obtains an adequate amount of materials from other republics. The main reason for the consistent lag in construction is poor organization of construction work and insufficient selection and training of construction workers, especially leading personnel (section heads, chiefs of construction projects, production managers, etc.).

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Many organizations still have the wrong idea that construction is of minor importance, and therefore mistakenly assign second-rate workers to this type of work. In view of the widely scattered construction projects in the Kirgiz SSR, this branch of industry requires efficient organization and highly skilled workers.

A number of ministries and administrations have no construction experts on their staff. The State Planning Commission, Council of Ministers Kirgiz SSR, employs only two persons for planning and checking the entire volume of capital construction in the republic. Therefore many ministries (food industry, meat and dairy industry, state farms, and automobile transport) actually do not super use the work in their construction projects, which are scattered throughout the entire republic. These projects are left to their own devices. (28)

The Kirgiz SSR has failed to fulfill its capital construction plans for the past few years. Construction workers also fail to meet the plan for lowering production costs. In 1946, construction costs were 6 percent above the estimates; in 1947, one percent, and in 1948, 6 percent above, whereas the Five-Year Plan provides for a 12-percent lowering of costs. Failure to fulfill this plan causes considerable loss to the republic by depriving it of important financial sources for capital construction, thereby further hindering construction progress.

Until now, mining of nonmetallic minerals in the Kirgiz SSR is done by outdated methods, each building organization being left to shift for itself. Mechanized quarrying has not yet been organized in the Kirgiz SSR.

The supply of construction projects with timber, especially local timber, is poorly organized. There are sufficient reserves of timber, but its procurement and transport are exceedingly difficult. (29)

During the third quarter of 1949, conditions in the building industry remained unsatisfactory. Only the enterprises and construction projects of the Ministry of Agricultural-Machine Building and the Ministry of Transportation fulfilled their construction plans. All other ministries failed to meet their plans. The Ministry of Petroleum Industry completed 71 percent of the third-quarter plan for capital construction; the Administration of Construction Materials Industry, 48 percent; the Ministry of Meat and Dairy Industry, 43 percent; and the Ministry of Local Industry, 28 percent. (30)

The present conditions in capital construction not only hinder fulfillment of the 1949 plan, but also jeopardize completion of the 1950 construction program. (28)

Turkmen SSR

Considerable construction work is in progress in the Karakum Desert. Production of movable houses has been started in Chardzhou. These houses are specially adaptable to desert conditions. The first 20 houses have been delivered to shepherds in pasture regions. (31)

Tadzhik SSR

Construction of dwellings for migrants is in full progress in Dzhilikul'skiy Rayon, Stalinabad Oblast. Since the beginning of 1949, 1,600 new houses have been built. (32)

Uzbek SSR

During 1949, 18 new dwellings were built in the Kolkhoz imeni Chapeyev, Izbaskentskiy Rayon, Andizhan Oblast. Eleven of these houses were built for the families of military personnel. (33)

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